

comforter becomes comforted by the spirit and—of these—and pride of these families.

And so I met the Krissoffs. Mr. Krissoff is a 60-year-old guy—I shouldn't be calling him "mister" because I'm a little older than he is—[*laughter*]—but he's a baby boomer just like me and a successful doctor. He said something very interesting to me. He said that he wanted to honor his country and honor his son by joining the military. I looked at the guy and said, yes, okay. [*Laughter*] I said, why don't you? He said, "Well, some of the folks think I'm a little old." [*Laughter*] I said, I don't—with him being a younger fella. [*Laughter*] So I helped him. And in Laura's box at the State of the Union sat Lieutenant Commander Bill Krissoff, serving the United States of America.

Ours is a fabulous country. We are a dedicated, compassionate people, aiming to lay the foundation of peace for generations to come. I told you early, some see the world and tremble. I see the world and see opportunities. And the great opportunity before us is to lay the foundation of peace, and that is exactly what we're doing. God bless.

Thank you all. Okay, I got a little bit of business to do. If you don't mind sitting down for just a second, I am now going to sign this 15-day extension to give Members of the House and the Senate time to get this bill to my desk for the sake of our security. And thank you for witnessing this.

[At this point, the President signed the bill.]

Thank you all very much. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:30 a.m. at the Emerald at Queensridge. In his remarks, he referred to Ranson W. Webster, chairman of the board of directors, and Sharon J. Rossie, president, Nevada Policy Research Institute; Gov. Jim Gibbons of Nevada; former Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom; and Gen. David H. Petraeus, USA, commanding general, Multi-National Force—Iraq. He also referred to Executive Order 13457 and H.R. 5104, which was assigned Public Law No. 110-182.

Remarks on Signing the American Heart Month Proclamation in Kansas City, Missouri

February 1, 2008

The President. Joyce, thank you for joining me.

Joyce Cullen. Thank you.

The President. Joyce is here to join me as I sign a proclamation declaring February American Heart Month.

Part of the reason she is here is because she understands what Laura understands and what a lot of Americans are coming to understand, is that heart disease is the number-one killer of both women and men—

Ms. Cullen. Yes.

The President. —and that through awareness of this disease, people are more likely to be able to recognize symptoms and deal with it.

And so there's what we call the Heart Truth Campaign, the Red Dress Campaign. And Laura is very much involved with that. She's in New York today at a fashion show heralding the Heart Truth Campaign. Joyce is with me because when Laura was here last in Kansas City, she went to St. Luke's Hospital and talked about the importance for people to recognize the symptoms of heart disease. Joyce had such symptoms, went to the hospital, and prevented a serious heart disease and heart attack and sits here with the President.

Ms. Cullen. How about that.

The President. But more importantly, she's very much a part of the Heart Truth Campaign here in Kansas City.

Ms. Cullen. Yes.

The President. And she's helping people understand two things: one, to be able to recognize the symptoms, and secondly, be able to prevent the symptoms from happening in the first place.

Now, people need to have screenings and checkups; people need to live healthy lives, through exercise and no tobacco. In other words, the decisions we make will affect whether or not our hearts remain strong.

And so I want to thank you for being a strong leader in the campaign for awareness. And so it's my honor, Joyce, to join you in—

as you watch me sign this proclamation declaring February American Heart Month.

[At this point, the President signed the proclamation.]

Thank you. You bet. Thank you for being here. Thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:28 a.m. at the InterContinental Kansas City Hotel.

Proclamation 8220—American Heart Month, 2008

February 1, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Heart disease is the number one killer of both men and women in the United States. As we observe American Heart Month, we renew our commitment to raising awareness of the serious impact of cardiovascular disease, and we encourage all citizens to take steps to help prevent it.

By exercising regularly, avoiding tobacco, limiting consumption of alcohol, following a nutritious diet, and monitoring high blood cholesterol and high blood pressure, we all can work to decrease the chances of developing cardiovascular disease. I urge all Americans to take advantage of regular screenings and consult their doctors about how to reduce their personal risk for heart disease.

In 2002, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, coordinating with other Federal agencies and national organizations, established the national campaign “The Heart Truth” to raise awareness among women of the dangers of cardiovascular disease. Today, more Americans are aware that it is the leading cause of death. The National Ambassador of “The Heart Truth” campaign, First Lady Laura Bush, continues to lead the Federal Government’s efforts to send the urgent message to women about their risk for heart disease. Through this campaign, millions of women across the country have come to recognize the red dress as an important reminder to make healthy choices for their heart and encourage others to do the same.

During American Heart Month, we express our gratitude to the dedicated medical professionals, researchers, and others whose tireless efforts help save lives and make a difference for countless Americans. As we work together to fight this deadly disease, we recognize that every person can take action to reduce his or her risk for heart disease and make the decision to live a healthier life.

In acknowledgement of the importance of the ongoing fight against cardiovascular disease, the Congress, by Joint Resolution approved December 30, 1963, as amended (77 Stat. 843; 36 U.S.C. 101), has requested that the President issue an annual proclamation designating February as “American Heart Month.”

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim February 2008 as American Heart Month, and I invite all Americans to participate in National Wear Red Day on February 1, 2008. I also invite the Governors of the States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, officials of other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, and the American people to join me in recognizing and reaffirming our commitment to fighting cardiovascular disease.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:21 a.m., February 4, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on February 5.

Remarks at Hallmark Cards, Inc., in Kansas City

February 1, 2008

Thank you all. Thank you for letting me come by to say hello. A couple of observations: One, you work for a fabulous company of caring people. I appreciate, Don, your hospitality. I am still trying to recover from the kindergarten experience. *[Laughter]* I mean,